

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA  
ATLANTA DIVISION

IN RE: PARAGARD PRODUCTS  
LIABILITY LITIGATION

: MDL DOCKET NO. 2974  
:

This document relates to:

: 1:20-md-02974-LMM  
:

Heather U. Hassell

:

: Civil Action No.: \_\_\_\_\_  
:

VS.

:

TEVA PHARMACEUTICALS USA, INC.;  
TEVA WOMEN'S HEALTH, LLC;  
TEVA BRANDED PHARMACEUTICALS  
PRODUCTS R&D INC.; THE COOPER  
COMPANIES, INC.; AND COOPERSURGICAL, INC.

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**SHORT FORM COMPLAINT**

Come(s) now the Plaintiff(s) named below, and for her/their Complaint  
against the Defendant(s) named below, incorporate(s) the Second Amended Master  
Personal Injury Complaint (Doc. No. 79), in MDL No. 2974 by reference.

Plaintiff(s) further plead(s) as follows:

1. Name of Plaintiff placed with Paragard: Heather U. Hassell

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Name of Plaintiff's Spouse (if a party to the case): N/A

\_\_\_\_\_

3. If case is brought in a representative capacity, Name of Other Plaintiff and capacity (i.e., administrator, executor, guardian, conservator):  
N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. State of Residence of each Plaintiff (including any Plaintiff in a representative capacity) at time of filing of Plaintiff's original complaint: North Carolina  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. State of Residence of each Plaintiff at the time of Paragard placement:  
North Carolina  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. State of Residence of each Plaintiff at the time of Paragard removal:  
North Carolina  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. District Court and Division in which personal jurisdiction and venue would be proper:  
U.S. District Court, Eastern District of North Carolina, Northern Division  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. Defendants. (Check one or more of the following five (5) Defendants against whom Plaintiff's Complaint is made. The following five (5) Defendants are the only defendants against whom a Short Form Complaint may be filed. No other entity may be added as a defendant in a Short Form Complaint.):

- ☒ A. Teva Pharmaceuticals USA, Inc.
- ☒ B. Teva Women's Health, LLC
- ☒ C. Teva Branded Pharmaceutical Products R&D, Inc.
- ☒ D. The Cooper Companies, Inc.
- ☒ E. CooperSurgical, Inc.

9. Basis of Jurisdiction

- ☒ Diversity of Citizenship (28 U.S.C. § 1332(a))
- ☐ Other (if Other, identify below):
- 

10.

Date(s) Plaintiff had Paragard placed (DD/MM/YYYY)	Placing Physician(s) or other Health Care Provider (include City and State)	Date Plaintiff's Paragard was Removed (DD/MM/YYYY)* *If multiple removal(s) or attempted removal procedures, list date of each separately.	Removal Physician(s) or other Health Care Provider (include City and State)** **If multiple removal(s) or attempted removal procedures, list information separately.
May 2015	Williamston Women's Clinic (Williamston, NC)	05/26/2020	Vidant Women's Care Washington (Washington, NC)
		06/17/2020	Vidant Beaufort Hospital (Washington, NC)

11. Plaintiff alleges breakage (other than thread or string breakage) of her Paragard upon removal.

☒

Yes

☐

No

12. Brief statement of injury(ies) Plaintiff is claiming:

Plaintiff's Paragard broke upon removal, and one arm was retained and has yet  
to be removed.

Plaintiff reserves her right to allege additional injuries and complications specific to her.

13. Product Identification:

- a. Lot Number of Paragard placed in Plaintiff (if now known):

Unknown at this time.

- b. Did you obtain your Paragard from anyone other than the HealthCare Provider who placed your Paragard:

☐

Yes

☒

No

14. Counts in the Master Complaint brought by Plaintiff(s):

☒

Count I – Strict Liability / Design Defect

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Count II – Strict Liability / Failure to Warn

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Count III – Strict Liability / Manufacturing Defect

☒

Count IV – Negligence

☒

Count V – Negligence / Design and Manufacturing Defect

☒

Count VI – Negligence / Failure to Warn

- ☒ Count IX – Negligent Misrepresentation
  - ☒ Count X – Breach of Express Warranty
  - ☒ Count XI – Breach of Implied Warranty
  - ☒ Count XII – Violation of Consumer Protection Laws
  - ☒ Count XIII – Gross Negligence
  - ☒ Count XIV – Unjust Enrichment
  - ☒ Count XV – Punitive Damages
  - ☐ Count XVI – Loss of Consortium
  - ☐ Other Count(s) (Please state factual and legal basis for other claims not included in the Master Complaint below):
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- 

15. “Tolling/Fraudulent Concealment” allegations:

a. Is Plaintiff alleging “Tolling/Fraudulent Concealment”?

☒ Yes

☐ No

b. If Plaintiff is alleging “tolling/fraudulent concealment” beyond the facts alleged in the Master Complaint, please state the facts and legal basis applicable to the Plaintiff in support of those allegations below:

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16. Count VII (Fraud & Deceit) and Count VIII (Fraud by Omission) allegations:

a. Is Plaintiff bringing a claim under Count VII (Fraud & Deceit), Count VIII (Fraud by Omission), and/or any other claim for fraud or misrepresentation?



Yes



No

b. If Yes, the following information must be provided (in accordance with Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 8 and/or 9, and/or with pleading requirements applicable to Plaintiff's state law claims):

i. The alleged statement(s) of material fact that Plaintiff alleges was false: Paragard was safe for use as a means of long-term birth

control and was as safe or safer than other products on the market.

ii. Who allegedly made the statement: The Defendants.

iii. To whom the statement was allegedly made: Plaintiff and her  
healthcare providers.

iv. The date(s) on which the statement was allegedly made:  
The statements were made on various dates since its approval by the  
FDA in 1984.

17. If Plaintiff is bringing any claim for manufacturing defect and alleging facts beyond those contained in the Master Complaint, the following information must be provided:

a. What does Plaintiff allege is the manufacturing defect in her Paragard? N/A

18. Plaintiff's demand for the relief sought if different than what is alleged in the Master Complaint: N/A

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19. Jury Demand:



Jury Trial is demanded as to all counts



Jury Trial is NOT demanded as to any count

s/ R. Andrew Jones; Stephen Hunt, Jr.

Attorney(s) for Plaintiff

Address, phone number, email address and Bar information:

2131 Magnolia Ave South, Birmingham, AL 35023

(205) 328-2200

R. Andrew Jones (asb-0096-il1r) ajones@corywatson.com

Stephen Hunt, Jr. (asb-3621-n62h) shunt@corywatson.com